

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**INFINIBAND MULTICAST OPERATION IN AN LPAR ENVIRONMENT**

A method, computer program product, and data processing system for providing system-area network (SAN) multicasting functionality in a logically partitioned (LPAR) data processing system in which a channel adapter is shared among a plurality of logical partitions is disclosed. A preferred embodiment of the present invention allows LPAR "hypervisor" firmware to assume the responsibility for multicast protocol handling and distribution of packets among logical partitions.